

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 COME-00 AF-10 ARA-10
EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 ICA-11 AGRE-00 LAB-04
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E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS: ECOSOC
SUBJECT: 1978 SUMMER ECOSOC: SECRETARY-GENERAL COREA OF
UNCTAD, STATEMENT TO PLENARY, JULY 12, 1978.

1. GAMANI COREA, UNCTAD SYG, LEAD OFF THE PLENARY DEBATE
JULY 12 P.M. HE REVIEWED THE STATUS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS
WITHIN UNCTAD PERTAINING TO THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE.
AFTER NOTING THE SUSPENSION OF THE COMMON FUND NEGOTIATIONS
LAST DECEMBER, HE EXPRESSED OPTIMISM, NOTING THE DESIRE OF
ALL SIDES FOR THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS
AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMON FUND, INCLUDING THE FINANCING
OF OTHER MEASURES AND THE GIVING OF THE FUND AN "ADEQUATE
VOLUME" OF RESOURCES THROUGH DIRECT GOVERNMENTAL CONTRIBU-
TIONS. MAIN PROBLEM THAT REMAINED HE CHARACTERIZED AS
THOSE PERTAINING OF VOTING AND DECISION MAKING. HE SUM-
MARIZED THE PRESENT STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS AS POSSESSING
A WIDE AREA AGREEMENT, BUT THAT CONSENSUS HAD NOT YET
BEEN REACHED, WITH MANY GAPS REMAINING TO BRIDGE AND
MANY ISSUES TO BE CLARIFIED. HE NOTED THE AD HOC
COMMITTEE OF UNCTAD ON THE IPC (AHIC) WAS CURRENTLY
MEETING TO SCHEDULE THE RESUMPTION OF THE CONFERENCE,
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MOST PROBABLY FOR SOMETIME IN THE EARLY FALL.

2. ON THE INDIVIDUAL COMMODITY NEGOTIATIONS, HE NOTED
THE AHIC WAS CURRENTLY REVIEWING PROGRESS, WHICH HE CALLED
UNSATISFACTORY. HE STATED HE WAS PROPOSING THAT THE
PREPARATORY PHASE ON INDIVIDUAL COMMODITIES BE EXTENDED
FOR ONE YEAR WITH A REVIEW OF PROGRESS TO BE HELD AT

UNCTAD V IN MAY 1979.

3. ON THE WORK ON THE CODE OF CONDUCT ON TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, HE EXPRESSED OPTIMISM ON PROGRESS ACHIEVED BASED ON THE OUTCOME OF THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED WORK OF THE IGE AT THE ITS SIXTH AND LAST SESSION. AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED ON MANY IMPORTANT AREAS AND THE IGE IDENTIFIED AREAS WHERE THE NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE WOULD HAVE TO MAKE FURTHER PROGRESS. ON THE DISCUSSIONS ON RESTRICTIVE BUSINESS PRACTICES WITHIN UNCTAD, HE NOTED AN EXPERT WAS CURRENTLY MEETING AND "FINALIZING" DRAFTS FOR A NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE, PROBABLY TO BE IN 1979. THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF UNCTAD WORK ON RBPS HE FELT WOULD BE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO THE ONGOING WORK ON THE DRAFTING OF A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR TNCs. ON OTHER ISSUES BEFORE UNCTAD, HE NOTED THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL TDB MEETING ON DEBT ISSUES, BUT RECALLED THAT THE FORTHCOMING TDB (AUGUST) WAS TO REVIEW PERFORMANCE ON THE AGREEMENT REACH AT THE MINISTERIAL TDB ON RETRO-ACTIVE TERMS ADJUSTMENT WHICH WOULD BE THE OCCASION OF AN ASSESSMENT OF THE PROGRESS MADE IN THIS AREA. HE NOTED THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A GROUP OF EXPERTS ON DEBT REORGANIZATION WOULD BE TAKING UP AN AREA OF ENDEAVOR THAT THE CIEC HAD FAILED TO SOLVE. ON MONEY, FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT, HE NOTED THE RECENT MEETING OF A GROUP OF EXPERTS ON INTERDEPENDENCE AND THAT OTHER MEETINGS ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE IMPACT OF INFLATION AND INSURANCE OF INVESTMENTS WOULD BE HELD SHORTLY. THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, HE STATED, WAS ALREADY IN POSSESSION OF A UNCTAD PAPER ON TRANSFER OF RESOURCES, AND AREA WHERE UNCTAD EXPECTS TO STRENGTHEN ITS FUTURE WORK.

4. ECONOMIC COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WAS MAJOR AREA OF UNCTAD WORK, WHERE THE SECRETARIAT WAS TRYING TO RESPOND TO THE G-77 MEXICO CONFERENCE RESOLUTION (WHICH HE STATED HAD BEEN APPROVED BY THE UNCTAD ECDC COMMITTEE). HE NOTED THE UNCTAD ECDC COMMITTEE WOULD MEET AGAIN THIS YEAR, AND THAT THIS WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY THE G-77 MINISTERIAL MEETING AT ARUSHA, TANZANIA, AND ULTIMATELY BY UNCTAD V WHERE HE EXPECTED MAJOR DECISIONS TO BE MADE IN THIS AREA. ECDC HE DESCRIBED AS A MAJOR NEW INPUT INTO ANY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY.

5. TURNING TO THE PROSPECTS FOR UNCTAD V, SYG COREA STATED THAT THAT CONFERENCE PROVIDES A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET THE PRESSING PROBLEMS OF THE TIME. THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE CONFERENCE WOULD BE VERY MUCH SET BY PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS IN UNCTAD, (I.E. COMMON

FUND, CODE OF CONDUCT, OF TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, AND DEBT) BEING THE MOST SIGNIFICANT - FAILURE IN THESE AREAS WOULD POISON THE ATMOSPHERE. HE OUTLINED HIS THINKING FOR THE UNCTAD V AGENDA AS BEING: 1) REVIEW OF PROGRESS IN ACHIEVING THE DECISION OF UNCTAD IV, 2) MAJOR CONCERNS OF THE PRESENT TIME SUCH AS MARKET ACCESS, BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROBLEMS, RESOURCE TRANSFERS, ETC., AND 3) A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS ON THE THRESHOLD OF DD III WHERE UNCTAD V WOULD BE EXPECTED TO MAKE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPECIAL SESSION OF THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY.

NOTE BY OC/T: MESSAGE DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION.
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6. COREA CONCLUDED BY STATING THAT ECOSOC WAS MEETING A "CLIMATE OF ANXIETY" AND UNCERTAINTY, BUT THAT TWO CONCLUSIONS HE HAD EXTRACTED WERE: A) THE CURRENT DIFFICULTIES OF THE WORLD ECONOMIC SITUATION DO NOT STEM FROM MERE CYCLICAL FACTORS AND SOLUTIONS CANNOT BE FOUND IN MEASURE TO ACHIEVE RECOVERY. THE PROBLEMS ARE MUCH MORE DEEPLY ROOTED AND ANY SOLUTION WILL REQUIRE CHANGES

OF A BASIC STRUCTURAL NATURE; AND B) DEVELOPMENT OF THE LDCS IS A VITAL PART OF ANY BETTER AND EXPANDING FUNCTIONING OF THE WORLD ECONOMY. THEREFORE, ENHANCED EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT EXPANDED LDC DEVELOPMENT COULD ADD "NEW DYNAMISM" TO THE WORLD ECONOMIC GROWTH PROGRESS. HE CONNECTED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COW UNDERLINES THE VITAL IMPORTANCE OF THE ISSUES BEFORE UNCTAD AND HOPED THE COW WOULD ENABLE PROGRESS TO BE ACHIEVED MORE RAPIDLY. VANDEN HEUVEL

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